1: Honigmann E-5 (1943-1945) 1949 ND12 Nahane ND12

high prices, is regarded as the most important for the trap. The beaver season, therefore is 224
supply exploited and an individual whose territory contains a well stocked beaver creek is regarded as being a favorable position. Resources in beaver are often referred to as the "Indian bank" and an average trapper can expect to almost double his winter earnings during this season. Beaver trapping differs from winter trapping in that it requires considerable immersion in water, so that it is often accompanied or followed by colds and other illness.

Gardening. In the spring the men in most families plant a small garden in the winter 224
settlement. The standard crops are potatoes, turnips, carrots, and cabbages. The gardens remain unattended while the people spend the summer in Lower Post and usually, being unfenced, are consistently raided by rabbits. Gardens are not of great economic importance. Their yield is generally small and never included when a man estimates the amount of food which his family will require for the winter.

Foresight. There is little manifestation of any realistic attitudes of conservation among 185
the Indians, although the need for such a policy is recognized. To illustrate, Old Man complained that low bush cranberries and raspberries had almost disappeared from the neighborhood of his home. He blamed this on the indiscriminate picking. He also alluded to the large scale moose and caribou hunting that had formerly been possible in the Upper Liard River area. In one year the family's hunters brought down eighty-two caribou and moose. In 1939 Old Man's son-in-law, Harry Long, told his father-in-law that if they continued to hunt "every day" they would "clean out" all the game. Old Man didn't believe Harry then. "Game come anyway," he told the young man. In 1945, when moose were scarce, he was more inclined to believe the younger man's advice. Old Man also reported a beaver colony near the winter settlement where the beaver "must be old as me." They are never trapped, he reported, being left for "seed." Old Kate, another Upper Liard Indian, was reported to leave marten areas alone for two or three years in order to give the animals a chance to breed.

The Indian's appreciation of the necessity for conservation is well illustrated by his attitudes toward the ruling of the Yukon Government in 1945 declaring beaver trapping to be closed for three years. Hosea Donnelly was aware of the fact that the supply of Yukon beaver had become seriously depleted, especially as a result of the indiscriminate killing of these animals prior to 1938, when a law went into effect prohibiting their shooting. Despite his understanding that policy of conservation aimed at rebuilding these depleted resources, he resented the closure and agreed with the point of view expressed by Nitla who said: "Somebody say beaver closed three years . . . what he gonna live on, the people? Better open that beaver. Government look after his boys. . . . Springtime, just sit down one place, out of money, poor luck, too bad. Ok, beaver open, pretty good, best way. Marten closed, pretty good, best way. Government smart, he do it all right. . . . Soon men starving he gonna eat that beaver meat. No smart; that's why he say that closed. Marten, you eat nothing. Just skin. That meat you throw away. Better marten make him closed."

TECHNOLOGY

The principal techniques followed by the Kaska in processing the raw materials obtained 32
from the environment are: woodworking, the making of cordage, skin working, and fire-making.